

VZCZCXYZ0606
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHAN #0159 0601027
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 291027Z FEB 08
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1013
INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0972
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHDC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

UNCLAS ANTANANARIVO 000159

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR G/TIP, G, INL, DRL, PRM
DEPT FOR AF/E BEYZEROV
DEPT FOR AF/RSA
PARIS FOR AFRICA WATCHER
PLEASE PASS TO USAID

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [KCRM](#) [KWMN](#) [SMIG](#) [KFRD](#) [ASEC](#) [PREF](#) [ELAB](#) [CN](#)
SUBJECT: COMOROS 2007 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT

REF: A) STATE 2731

¶1. (U) The Embassy Point of Contact for TIP is Political Officer Silvana Rodriguez. Ms. Rodriguez can be reached via email at RodriguezSD [at] state.gov, via telephone at 261.20.22.212.57, or via facsimile at 261.20.22.251.71. POLOFF Rodriguez spent approximately two hours preparing this report.

¶2. (U) As requested in Ref A, Embassy Antananarivo submits the following information, keyed to the questions in paragraphs 27-30 that are applicable to Comoros' situation.

- - - - -
OVERVIEW
- - - - -

-- 27. Comoros is not known to be a country of origin, transit, or destination for human trafficking. There have been no reports of international or internal trafficking from the government, NGOs, or any other sources.

- - - - -
INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF TRAFFICKERS
- - - - -

-- 28 A,D. (U) Although there is no TIP-specific legislation, trafficking acts would be prosecuted under existing laws in the penal code. The Labor Code defines the age of 15 as the minimum for employment. Rape is illegal, punishable by imprisonment of 5 to 10 years or up to 15 years if the victim is younger than 15 years of age. The government did not enforce effectively these laws on rape. These issues would generally be handled by village elders, the "notables."

-- 28 E. (U) Prostitution is illegal. Unmarried children under the age of 18 are protected legally from sexual exploitation, prostitution, and pornography.

-- 28 M. (U) The country does not have an identified child sex tourism problem. There is virtually no tourism industry in Comoros.

- - - - -
PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS
- - - - -

-- 29 A,B,C. (U) The impoverished government does not have the means

to provide assistance to trafficking victims through NGOS or any other sources.

-- 29 I. (U) The GOC does not provide any specialized training for government officials in recognizing trafficking.

- - - - -
PREVENTION
- - - - -

-- 30 B. (U) The GOC does not have any public anti-trafficking campaigns.

-- 30 C. (U) There are few NGOs in Comoros, as it is impoverished with extremely limited resources. There are no known NGOs who work on trafficking issues.

-- 30 D. (U) The Gendarmerie and Island security forces are involved in anti-trafficking efforts such as immigration and border control. However, there is no monitoring of immigration and emigration patterns specifically for evidence of trafficking. The airports maintain immigration controls. However, as an archipelago with little border and coastal security, there is a limited ability to track those entering the country.

-- 30 E. (U) There is no multi-agency working group or task force on anti-trafficking issues.

-- 30 F. (U) The government does not have a national plan of action to address trafficking in persons. There have been no known government programs to prevent trafficking.

CASEBEER